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Feb 19 2003
(Date)

Liza D. Hoheneschutz
(Printed Name)

Liza D. Hoheneschutz
(Signature)

Atty. Docket #: 5500*101

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Frederic Garcon

SERIAL NO: 09/921,263

ART UNIT: 1638

FILED: August 2, 2001

EXAMINER: R. Kallis

FOR: "Use Of HPPD Inhibitors As Selection
Agents In The Transformation Of Plants"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in response to the Office Action of November 7, 2002, the time for a response to which is set to expire on February 7, 2003.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

In the specification:

Page 1, delete the second paragraph (lines 11-26) and insert:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Many techniques for transforming plant cells and plants by genetic engineering have been developed and thoroughly described in the literature. Firstly, methods which seek to introduce a DNA fragment carrying the heterologous gene in the form of "naked DNA" may be distinguished. This involves, in particular, bombarding cells, protoplasts or tissues with particles to which the DNA sequences are attached. Other methods may be used, such as microinjection or electroporation, or alternatively direct precipitation using PEG. Secondly, methods consisting in using, as a means of transfer into the plant, a heterologous

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